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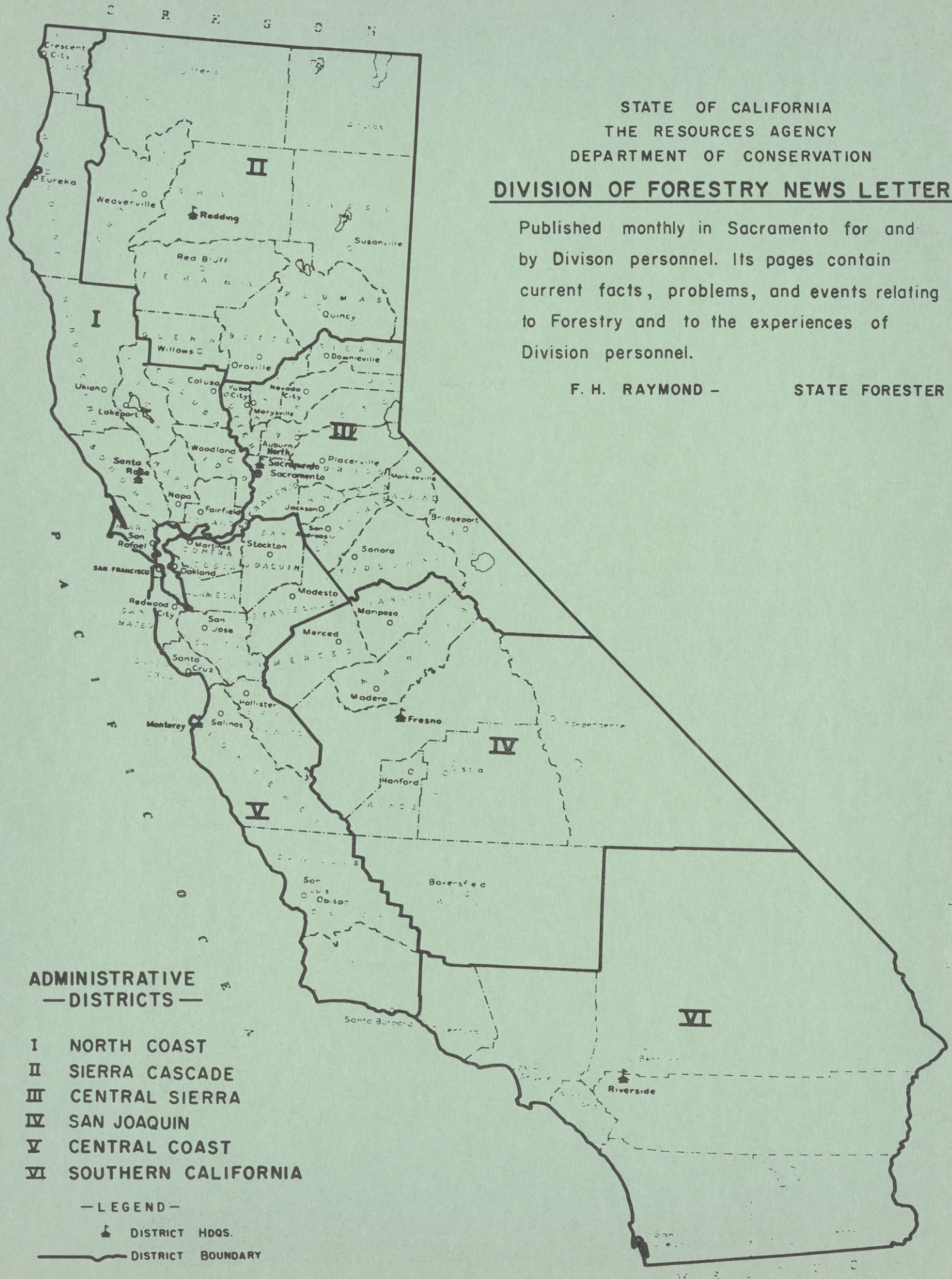
THE RESOURCES AGENCY
DEPT. OF CONSERVATION
DIVISION OF FORESTRY

NEWS LETTER

JAN. - FEB. 1963
VOL. 22 - NOS. 1-2



KEEP CALIFORNIA
GREEN and GOLDEN



STATE OF CALIFORNIA
THE RESOURCES AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

DIVISION OF FORESTRY NEWS LETTER

Published monthly in Sacramento for and by Divison personnel. Its pages contain current facts, problems, and events relating to Forestry and to the experiences of Division personnel.

F. H. RAYMOND – STATE FORESTER

ADMINISTRATIVE —DISTRICTS—

I NORTH COAST
II SIERRA CASCADE
III CENTRAL SIERRA
IV SAN JOAQUIN
V CENTRAL COAST
VI SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

—LEGEND—

DISTRICT HDQS.
DISTRICT BOUNDARY

JANUARY, 1963, ACTIVITIES

FIRE SUPPRESSION

A little over 650 acres were burned in areas of State Responsibility during the month of January.

The fire season was terminated in the San Joaquin District on January 30th. This ended one of the longest seasons in their history.

Fire season in the Southern California district continues. Although gentle, light rain ended a 300-day drought in the south, warm weather and dry Santana Winds, immediately following the storm, erased traces of the moisture that would normally benefit the fire services.

The Santana Task Force, a group consisting of 80 men, 25 fire trucks, 10 bulldozers, 6 bulldozer service units, and some specialized fire-fighting equipment, returned from their tour of duty in Southern California.

Forestry Equipment Operator, Clarence Neal, who was burned last summer on a fire south of Laytonville, will re-enter the hospital in Sacramento this month for skin grafts. It is expected he will be off the job from four to six weeks.

On January 30th, the Department of Water Resources placed the Division of Forestry on alert for possible flood fighting duty. No assistance was necessary and the alert was removed on February 4th.

STATE-FEDERAL COOPERATION

A representative from the State Forester's Office met with the Clarke-McNary Coordinator at the Regional Office of the U. S. Forest Service to discuss and clarify parts of the instructions pertaining to the timber damage appraisal system presently being applied in California on a trial basis. Since the instructions were written for nation-wide use, certain adaptations were necessary in order to apply the system in the California region. The forest technicians responsible for handling the system in Districts I and III also participated.

FOREST FIRE RESEARCH

The Division of Forestry sponsored a meeting whose objective was to discuss the current status and possible improvements of viscous water and gel mixing and handling equipment on fire trucks. The meeting, held at the Arcadia Equipment Center, was attended by representatives of the U. S. Forest Service National Office, the Pacific Southwest Forest and Range Experiment Station, the Arcadia Equipment Development Center, the Cleveland National Forest, the Division's District VI headquarters in Riverside and the Division's Corona Forest Fire Station and the Sacramento Fire Research and Equipment Development staff. Although no conclusions were reached, the two days of discussion produced many good ideas which seem capable of being developed into mixing and handling equipment which will be really foolproof, simple to operate and maintain, and which will produce viscous water or gel quickly and easily. Projects to carry out the many suggestions made during the meeting have been farmed out to two or three of the Division's field units.

Temperatures which dropped below 20° F at Hemet during January produced unforeseen problems with viscous DAP at the Ryan Field Air Tanker Base. It had been known that CMC-DAP would increase in viscosity with lowering water temperatures. The matter of continuing fire-fighting operations through the cold winter months; however, had not been entirely contemplated. The CMC-DAP became so thick that it flowed more like heavy molasses than a light syrup, consequently, the time required to load a TBM air tanker was more than doubled during this cold period.

Fatigue tests with metals coated with the various formulations of viscous DAP have pointed up no special problems to date. These tests, being conducted by the Arcadia Equipment Development Center, show no metal failure to date due to stress corrosion. These tests will continue at a constant pace throughout the next two or three months. It is hoped that these tests will also indicate success of the corrosion inhibitors which are now being used in the viscous DAP formulations. Success of the inhibitors has already been demonstrated in tensile strength tests conducted by the State Division of Highways Testing Laboratory.

FIRE WEATHER AND FIRE DANGER RATING

The Fire Weather and Fire Danger Coordinators helped conduct a two-day weather training session in the Madera Ranger Unit. Representatives from the Fresno Office of the U. S. Weather Bureau and the Pacific Southwest Forest and Range Experiment Station also participated.

Preliminary discussions with the Experiment Station and the U. S. Forest Service were held regarding revisions and updating of the Wildland Fire Danger Rating Handbook. A full review of Fire Danger Rating Areas and their included weather stations will be held in February. The field units are in the process of forwarding recommended changes now.

The coordinators met with Marin County personnel to discuss the possibility of Marin County participating in the Fire Danger Rating system. The decision was reached that Woodacre Station will begin Danger Index computations for Fire Danger Rating Area 190 for the 1963 fire season. Some arrangements will still need to be made for the receipt of regular fire weather forecasts, and of Danger Index information from Sonoma County Ranger Unit headquarters. Sonoma County rates FDR Area 180 which covers about the western two-thirds of Marin County.

Much work was done on the Mt. St. Helena high-speed wind recorder. Two faulty relays were replaced and several parts were reinforced against wear. It was discovered that the cable connections on the pole top are badly corroded deep inside a "water-tight" connector. One key wire was completely broken loose. Plans are being made to install a waterproof junction box to eliminate this problem.

At the same time the lubrication system for the top bushing of the anemometer was discovered to be faulty. A small lateral oil weep hole had never been drilled completely through into the central oiling channel. As a result, the top bushing was absolutely dry and was causing severe binding in the instrument. During a period near the end of December and again on January winds

of over 70 miles per hour were recorded in spite of the binding problem.

The Fire Weather Coordinator completed three forecast studies related to Index predicting.

WATERSHED MANAGEMENT

A representative of the Fire Control Office attended the progress meeting with interested agencies to evaluate planning progress on Public Law 566 projects.

The preliminary draft of the forest and fire protection study for the Alisal-Gabilan Public Law 566 Project in Monterey County has been received and reviewed by the State Forester's staff and the Regional Office of the U. S. Forest Service.

A representative of this office met with representatives of the Department of Water Resources to refine coordination of the various studies that are the coordinant responsibility of the Department of Water Resources.

The Division of Forestry was represented at a meeting with the U. S. Forest Service and the sponsors of the Upper Chino Basin Public Law 566 project in San Bernardino County to review planning progress on the forest and wildland phases.

The Division was represented at the State Soil Conservation Commission meeting in Fresno and completed a review of the wildland fire protection measures recommended by the U. S. Forest Service for the Shasta River Public Law 566 project in Siskiyou County.

STATE-COUNTY COOPERATION

A member of the State Forester's staff attended the Northern California Firemen's meeting at Chico on January 18-19-20, sat in on the Board of Directors' meeting for the California Rural Firemen's Association at Santa Rosa on January 25, and attended the two-day Radiological Defense Conference which was conducted by Department of Defense, Office of Civil Defense, Region 7 at Sacramento on January 30 and February 1. He spent two days in District VI (Riverside) gathering information on emergency standby generators that are used in conjunction with the Division Communication system.

INSECT CONTROL

Additional funds made available by Governor Brown have enabled the Division of Forestry to give more attention to the control of the worst forest insect epidemic experienced in California. Two zones of infestation in Southern California were enlarged by the Board of Forestry at its meeting on January 9. This will allow the State to expand its control work there on State Parks and nearby private land in cooperation with owners. Three additional projects were initiated in the counties of Tulare, Fresno, Calaveras, and El Dorado covering 77,000 acres of State and private land. Director of Conservation DeWitt Nelson and the State Forester met on January 28 with the California Forest Pest Control Action Council to outline steps to solicit more interest of forest owners to enter into cooperative control projects with the Division since the program is based on

a sharing of costs between the State, the U. S. Forest Service, and forest owners. This action should lead to more control projects to be conducted in the coming months. The Division uses inmates of Conservation Camps in much of this work.

TIMBER TAXATION

The timber taxation policy of the Board of Forestry was amended January 9. The new policy resulted from a study by a joint timber tax committee of the Boards of Forestry and Equalization and an opinion (61-104) issued by the Attorney General. This ruling indicated that the tax exemption provided by the State Constitution for young-growth timber applies to seed trees left after logging and to all successive young crops of trees. The constitutional exemption is for a 40-year period and until declared mature by a special board composed of representatives of the Boards of Forestry and Equalization and the County Assessor.

SOIL-VEGETATION SURVEY

The last maps showing the soils and vegetation of Humboldt County were completed. These maps, which are useful in land-use determination, resulted from a seven-year survey cooperatively conducted by the California Division of Forestry, the Pacific Southwest Forest and Range Experiment Station, and the University of California. Counties previously completed are Mendocino, Lake, Glenn, and Tehama. Survey work is now in progress in Sonoma, Shasta, and Trinity.

PUBLIC INFORMATION

How to manage lands for Christmas tree production in Southern California is the subject of a publication issued by the California Division of Forestry in January. It satisfies a demand for knowledge on this subject by forest owners. An increasing number of tree farmers are establishing plantations where the public can come to choose and cut their own Christmas trees.

FIRE PREVENTION CHEMICAL STUDIED

A relatively new chemical compound available in commercial quantities and at reasonable price is being studied for its effect on fireproofing roadsides. Historically, about 35% of the forest, range, and watershed fires controlled by the Department's Division of Forestry start along roadsides.

Complete hazard reduction by removing vegetation or with previously studied fire retardent chemicals would run fireproofing costs into astronomical figures for California's thousands of miles of roadsides.

Extensive field tests of the new chemical during the coming fire season may save thousands of dollars in fireproofing costs and natural resource losses.

ENGINEERING AND CAMP SECTION

On January 30th Jacobson and Petersen, together with Mr. Raymond and Mr. Moran, attended a joint conference with the Department of Corrections reviewing the treatment programs. The conclusions on this conference are intended to advise the Forestry staff participation in the Don Lugo intensive treatment program.

Bids were opened for the Dobbins Forest Fire Station equipment building. Low bid was submitted by Parkview Contractors of Marysville in the amount of $15,641 which is $7.20 per square foot. Construction should start about the first of April.

The Public Works Board approved the acquisition of one parcel at Banner Mountain Lookout, the final easements for the Black Mountain Conservation Camp, construction of the Black Mountain Conservation Camp, an amendment to the description at Magalia Conservation Camp, and the authorization to purchase the Placer Ranger Unit Headquarters along with an augmentation from the current appropriation of $35,000 to appraised value of $62,000.

On January 18 Messrs. Moran and Petersen met with Deputy Director Calkins and subsequently a formal letter was submitted to the Director calling to his attention that $200,000 is available from the U. S. Forest Service for the construction of Forestry facilities in accordance with the Public Works Acceleration Act. Two formal projects were submitted for consideration; a messhall at Crescent City in Del Norte County and a barracks at Piedra Forest Fire Station in Fresno County.

On January 18th Petersen, along with Chuck Darragh of the Property Acquisition Division, met with Messrs. Gellerman and Setzer on the acquisition of the Loma Prieta Lookout. Mr. Setzer wanted time to consider the entire proposal and will undoubtedly come back with a counter offer.

On January 9th Petersen and staff and Jim Denny met with Mr. Mace and Mr. Henson on the concept of the new youth forestry program. Mr. Mace presented the budget requirements of this facility. On January 10th Petersen and staff and Mr. Mace met with the committee on the new youth forestry camp and further developed the program. Also, discussed was the writing of the enabling legislation.

We discussed with the Department of Corrections the item of budgeting for the Forestry Instructors at the Southern California Conservation Center. It was learned that the Department of Finance is directing the item be transferred from Correction's budget to Forestry's.

Representatives from Engineering and District III met with Youth Authority representatives concerning items to be completed at the Washington Ridge Youth Conservation Camp. About $5,000 will be required to complete or modify a number of items not originally specified in the design of this camp. Much of the money is required to alleviate construction shortcomings.

<u>ALLEN T. SPENCER, EX-STATE BOARD OF FORESTRY MEMBER DIED IN AUBURN ON JANUARY 13 AT THE AGE OF 81</u>.

Mr. Spencer was a mining engineer with a degree from Stanford University but spent most of his career in and became an authority on range, livestock, and reclamation. Much of his public service was on various boards and commissions including the State Reclamation Board, the State Board of Agriculture, and the State Board of Forestry.

In his capacity as a member of the State Board of Forestry, Mr. Spencer assisted in setting up the Range Advisory Committee to the Board. He was appointed to the Board by Governor Earl Warren.

MERIT AWARDS

Mary Ann Mosley, Senior Stenographer in the Business Management and Personnel Section earned an "extra" $50 for a suggestion which should save the Division of Forestry $500 within a year of its adoption.

Mrs. Mosley proposed the use of a new form, F-68, to record long distance telephone calls. The new form is being used in lieu of the old NR 405.

Lanier Cloud, F.E.O., Susanville, was awarded a Certificate of Commendation for suggesting that Fire Road/Fire Camp signs be painted with fluorescent-type paint.

The Division of Forestry has ordered 3,000 luminous signs as a result of the suggestion.

EXTRACT FROM HARVARD BUSINESS REVIEW - JANUARY-FEBRUARY, 1963

"A new product is like a baby. You can't just bring it into the world and expect it to grow up and be a success. It needs a mother (enthusiasm) to love it and keep it going when times are tough. It needs a pediatrician (expert information and technical skills) to solve the problems the mother can't cope with alone. And it needs a father (authority with resources) to feed it and house it. Without any one of these the baby may still turn out all right but its chances for survival are a lot lower."

MOJAVE DESERT SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT RESOLUTION NO. 67-2

A resolution of the Board of Directors of the Mojave Desert Soil Conservation District commending the State Division of Forestry, the County Fire Warden, and the Forestry Fire Crew stationed in Hesperia.

WHEREAS, there was a serious train accident at Sec. 21, T8, R4W, Helendale, California, on October 14, 1962; and

WHEREAS, there was a great danger of fire, explosion and loss of life and property to persons in the area; and

WHEREAS, the danger was handled promptly, efficiently and with minimum loss by the forestry fire crew stationed in Hesperia;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of the Mojave Desert Soil Conservation District does hereby extend its sincere appreciation and commendation to the State Division of Forestry, the county Fire Warden and in particular to Mr. R. S. Lix, and Mr. Cy Holmes

ADOPTED this 10th day of December, 1962.

s/ C. H. Costa
President of the Board of Director
of the Mojave Desert Soil Conservation District

ATTEST:
John D. Owens
Executive Secretary of the Board of
Directors of the Mojave Desert Soil
Conservation District

POISON OAK STUDY

The California Department of Public Health has published a report on Occupational Poison Oak Dermatitis which will be of interest to Division of Forestry employees. The Public Health study was based on doctors reports in workmen's compensation cases and shows patterns for infection by employee age, season and occupation.

Poison oak infection was reported from all except a few high altitude areas of the State. Poison oak is almost never found above 5000 feet elevation and grows sparsely as altitudes approach this elevation. Large numbers of cases were reported from coastal areas.

In occupational groups Forest Firemen and Civil Engineers (Surveyors) showed the highest numbers of treated cases. In age groups, more than one-third of the cases were employees between 20 and 30 years of age. Two seasonal patterns appeared for fire protection agencies. A small seasonal peak occurs in January-February related to greatest crushability of the new leaf on young poison oak plants during the new growth period of December-January following November rains. A high seasonal peak occurs between late June and early September which appears to reflect the seasonal increase in frequency of fires and in numbers of workers exposed. Occupational group rankings and age groupings are also reflective of exposure; firefighting and surveying are, in general, work performed by younger employees in poison oak areas. Public Health does conclude, however, that sensitivity to poison oak decreases with age.

A simple, practical and effective method for immunization against poison oak either with oral tablets or injections has not yet been scientifically proved. Prior to an attack, desensitization can be achieved by some, but not all persons, providing they take enough injections of one of the active allergens, that they complete the entire series of injections six weeks before exposure, and that they repeat the series annually. Rhus toxin injections administered during an acute attack are useless and may be harmful.

Poison oak dermatitis generally lasts about five days whether treated or untreated. However, 70% of the cases reported were not of sufficient severity to require losing time from work. Indirect effects, such as reduced effeciency and lowered morale of employees, are significant in fire protection agencies, particularly if substantial numbers of infected firefighters must be withdrawn from the crews and replacements are not readily available.

The first principle of prevention of poison oak dermatitis is to avoid contact with the plant. Where this is not possible, preventive measures must be based on separation of the person from the plant by protective clothing and barrier creams; and minimization of spread of the toxin by washing skin, hair, clothing and equipment. Contaminated clothing taken home without washing first can bring poison oak to the employee's family.

PERSONNEL CHANGES

12-14-62 - William E. Simon resigned as Stock Clerk at Davis to accept position with Highways.

12-18-62 - Vernon K. Eastin, Appointed Stock Clerk at Davis.

1-17-63 - Anna L. Rees, Intermediate Typist Clerk in Forest Management Section retired.

1-21-63 - Lois R. Henderson appointed Intermediate Typist Clerk in Forest Management Section

1-31-63 - Marion Wilson, Automotive Maintenance Foreman at Davis retired.

District I

11-30-62 - John A. Pfeifer promoted to Forestry Work Project Foreman at Mendocino. Previously worked in Riverside.

12-31-62 - Bryan G. Morisset, Groundsman, Sonoma, Retired 1-1-63.

10-31-62 - Paul S. Howlett, Sonoma, promoted to Civil Engineering Associate.

1-10-63 - Wesley A. LeBel, Assistant State Forest Ranger, changed location from Sonoma to Humboldt County.

1-1-63 - Daniel A. Krader, Forest Firefighter Foreman, Humboldt County, returned from Military Leave.

1-2-63 - Gary L. Brown, Forest Fire Truck Driver, Napa County was re-employed.

1-15-63 - Joseph T. Cardoza, Forest Fire Truck Driver, was re-employed in Napa County.

1-1-63 - Leslie G. Cox, Forest Fire Truck Driver, was re-employed in Napa County.

1-1-63 - Harold A. Rose, Forest Fire Truck Driver, changed location from Napa to Sonoma County.

1-17-63 - Kenneth Dials, Forest Fire Truck Driver, was re-employed in Napa County.

District II

12-31-62 - Marcial P. Sandoval one-half time Groundsman, Shasta County, retired.

12-3-62 - Arlene R. Gerhardt was reinstated as Intermediate Typist Clerk in Shasta County.

12-15-62 - Raymond E. Skeels was promoted to Assistant State Forest Ranger in Lassen County.

12-10-62 - Conie R. Robertson was promoted to Forestry Work Project Foreman in Lassen County.

12-17-62 - Thomas R. Hanton, Jr. was promoted to Forestry Work Project Foreman in Lassen County.

12-17-62 - John D. Rector, Jr. was reinstated as Forestry Equipment Operator in Shasta County.

1-1-63 - Herbert Nemeyer to Assistant Forestry Superintendent in Lassen County from Forestry Work Project Foreman in Tehama County.

1-1-63 - Eugene Tarp to Assistant Forestry Superintendent Construction Camp in Lassen County from Shasta County.

1-14-63 - Lanier Cloud to Forestry Work Project Foreman, Lassen County from Forestry Equipment Operator.

1-1-63 - Hobert E. Tompkins to Forestry Work Project Foreman in Lassen County from Forest Firefighter Foreman in Napa County.

1-10-63 - Bill Bien to Forest Firefighter Foreman in Tehama County from Forest Fire Truck Driver in District IV.

1-7-63 - David Mack to Forest Firefighter Foreman in Butte County from Riverside County.

District III

11-30-62 - George O. Phibbs was appointed to Assistant Deputy State Forester, District III Headquarters.

1-7-63 - Roberta U. Hasemeier was appointed to Intermediate Stenographer - Tuolumne.

12-24-62 - Keith Raybould, Forestry Work Project Foreman took a three-month leave of absence for convalescence from Tuolumne County.

District IV

11-30-62 - Rex M. Griggs from Assistant Forestry Superintendent, Conservation Camp in San Bernardino to Assistant State Forest Ranger in Merced.

12-15-62 - John M. Lundgren from Assistant State Forest Ranger in Humboldt County to Associate State Forest Ranger in Mariposa County.

1-1-63 - Robert Toler from Forest Fire Truck Driver to Forest Firefighter Foreman.

1-2-63 - Juanita Jones from TAU to Civil Service as Intermediate Stenographer.

12-25-62 - Rodney E. Greeley appointed Forest Fire Truck Driver in Tulare County.

1-1-63 - Earl Lovenguth, Forest Fire Truck Driver, from Merced County to Fresno.

12-17-62 - Melvin C. Knapp appointed Camp Crew Cook Fresno County.

1-1-63 - Raymond H. Banks, State Forest Ranger I, Amador County. to State Forest Ranger III, Tulare County.

1-31-63 - Benjamin Hagans, F. FTR. Foreman, Tulare County to Assistant State Forest Ranger, Madera County.

1-31-63 - Walter R. Bolster, Assistant State Forest Ranger, Fresno County to Assistant State Forest Ranger, Mariposa County.

District V

10-31-62 - LeRoy Hood reinstated as Forestry Equipment Operator in Santa Clara.

11-30-62 - David M. Mendoza, Forest Firefighter Foreman, reinstated from Military leave to Santa Cruz.

11-30-62 - James M. Carter, San Mateo, changed class from Fire Equipment Operator to Forest Fire Truck Driver.

11-30-62 - Richard C. Smith, San Mateo, changed class from Fire Equipment Operator to Forest Fire Truck Driver.

1-1-63 - Gregg E. Analla, San Mateo, changed class from Fire Equipment Operator to Forest Fire Truck Driver.

1-1-63 - Clemente E. Villa, Forest Firefighter Foreman, changed location from Santa Clara to San Luis Obispo.

11-15-62 - Jack Holly, Forest Fire Truck Driver, changed location from San Luis Obispo to San Mateo.

11-19-62 - Gary Shehorn, Forest Fire Truck Driver, changed location from San Luis Obispo to San Mateo.

12-31-62 - Mace Pewtherer, Forest Fire Prevention Officer, retired.

1-28-63 - Robert F. Cates changed location from Madera County to San Mateo County as a Forest Fire Truck Driver.

1-31-63 - Larry P. Hamilton has been appointed Forest Fire Truck Driver in San Mateo County.

District VI

11-30-62 - Alvin L. Riddle was promoted to Forestry Work Project Foreman, San Diego County.

11-30-62 - Charles R. Boomhower was promoted to Assistant State Forest Ranger Orange County.

11-15-62 - Arthur Jasso went to District I to fill Associate State Forest Ranger position.

11-30-62 - Rex Griggs, Assistant State Forest Ranger, transferred to Madera-Merced Ranger Unit.

11-30-62 - Lester Weaver, Forest Fire Truck Driver, transferred from San Diego to San Bernardino.

11-30-62 - Kent W. Textor, Forest Fire Truck Driver, transferred from San Diego to San Bernardino.

11-30-62 - Russell G. Koerner was promoted to Forest Firefighter Foreman in Riverside County.

11-30-62 - Anthony J. Govorchin was promoted to Forestry Work Project Foreman at Oak Glen Conservation Camp.

11-30-62 - Mike C. Wood was promoted to Forestry Work Project Foreman at Pilot Rock Conservation Camp.

11-30-62 - Charles Meidell was promoted to Forestry Work Project Foreman at Pilot Rock Conservation Camp.

11-30-62 - Edward O. Brown was promoted to position of Assistant Forestry Superintendent, Conservation Camp at Morena, San Diego County.

11-30-62 - Charles E. Toy, Assistant Forestry Superintendent, Conservation Camp, transferred from San Diego to Oak Glen Conservation Camp, San Bernardino County.

11-30-62 - Denver Seals was promoted to Forest Firefighter Foreman in Riverside County.

11-30-62 - Robert B. McMahan has been reinstated to Forest Firefighter position in San Diego County.

11-30-62 - Cord H. Voge was appointed to Forest Fire Truck Driver position in Riverside County.

12-16-62 - The following Forest Fire Truck Drivers have transferred from San Diego County to San Bernardino County: Ernest S. Crenshaw, Larry E. Herman, Russell P. Leland, Noel E. Lockwood, Joseph Regalla, and Harry Van Bibber.

1-31-63 - Douglas M. Glenn transferred from Riverside County to San Bernardino County to fill an Assistant Forestry Superintendent, Conservation Camp position.

1-23-63 - Bernard L. Boy was promoted to Forest Firefighter Foreman position in San Diego County.

1-28-63 - Ronald C. Faulkner, Forest Fire Truck Driver, transferred from San Diego County to Riverside County.

1-1-63 - Ralph R. Price, Automotive Maintenance Foreman, transferred from Riverside County to Orange County.

1-1-63 - Stuart Stuver, Automotive Maintenance Foreman, transferred from San Diego County to Riverside County.

1-1-63 - Robert L. Shay, Automotive Maintenance Foreman, transferred from San Bernardino County to Riverside County.

1-30-63 - Jim S. Wilhite, Forest Firefighter Foreman, Riverside County, resigned.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN Re: Vern Osburn - January 28, 1963

The writer and this office are deeply gratful for service rendered in the interest of local and regional public education, and more particularly for the assistance given with science instruction to elementary school children of the KVIP -KVIQ, Channels 7-6, viewing areas. This area extends from the Marysville Buttes to the Siskiyous and from Alturas to Eureka.

A series of 30 television science lessons had been developed with a syllabus for classroom teachers to be employed for open circuit and in school broadcast during the 1961-62 school term. As the time approached for the series some instructors previously planned for were found to be unavailable. During the year other instructors found themselves unable to give the lessons.

This gentleman though busy full time with his regular tasks accepted the challenge and responsibilities of some programming on short notice and gave the 20 to 30 hours of preparation needed for each broadcast. In doing this, and without previous broadcast experience, he gave an exceptionally good accounting of himself. Not only did he use visuals well, an important item on television, but his selection of images were pertinent and of value for general understanding.

This instructor and others of the group who worked with this series had to be rewarded by their products and the knowledge that they had made a contribution to public education to this area, no other reward was offered. No funds or other special benefits are available for this. We can say from this that these gentlemen are service oriented, interested in their subject (science), and they are skilled, this indicated by the clarity each gave to complex fields and to material from those fields.

The writer must again mention this gratitude for this gentleman's service, and thanks too, to employers who released them for broadcast days. To these employers, or administrators, the writer wishes to suggest that time be planned and opportunities for this instructor so that he may continue to observe, consider and clarify for those who share his day.

Sincerely,

s/ Robert E. Tomey
Coordinator for Education Television
Shasta County Schools

ANDY CREEKS, INSTRUCTOR, RECEIVES INSTRUCTOR TRAINING

Carl Andy Creeks, Forest Firefighter Foreman, like so many of us in the Division of Forestry, went through two weeks of intensive school work in the Instructor Training Course conducted by the State Department of Education, Bureau of Industrial Education's Fire Training Program.

So what! Hundreds of guys in the outfit went through the paces in the Instructor Training Course; so? So, Andy got a perfect score on the examination.

Dick Nevins, Instructor of Fire Training, said he has been conducting the Instructor Training classes for years and this is the first time that anyone

has received a perfect score. Dick said that the first time he checked Andy's paper he thought that he had made a mistake in grading because there were no red pencil marks on Andy's paper. After checking the paper three times, Dick finally conceded that Andy did get a perfect score.

Andy has worked two years as a Foreman; before that one year as a Driver; and spent two years as a Firefighter during the summer time. He became interested in the Division of Forestry about six years ago when he joined the Doyle Colony Volunteer Fire Department in Tulare County. Presently Andy is assigned as a Training Specialist in Schedule A fire suppression operations in Tulare Ranger Unit. He is responsible under John Rosar, Schedule A Associate Ranger for the training of 60 Division of Forestry fire control people assigned to 30 Schedule A fire stations and 400 volunteer firefighters in the Ranger Unit.

Maybe one of the reasons Andy got a perfect score is that he apparently likes his work, puts forth a lot of effort, has a good attitude and says he sees a future for him in the job.

Dick Nevins said that when Andy, who was the first to complete the examination on the last day, brought his paper to him, Dick asked Andy how he thought he did on the examination. Andy replied, "I think I could have done better."

You can't get better than a perfect score.

R. T. Ford
Fire Prevention Officer

BASS LAKE LANDMARK BURNS

At about nine o'clock on the evening of December 11, smoke was discovered pouring from the lower floor of the wooden, two story Pines Resort building located on the north shore of Bass Lake.

Bud Williams, the owner, lives close by and was immediately told about the fire. He rushed to the scene and was unable to enter except through a window in the second floor. He was able to remove only a few records before the building was completely involved.

Because the telephone lines in the immediate vicinity were put out of operation shortly after the fire was discovered, there was a delay in reporting the fire to the various fire departments. The entire building was of frame and log construction with a shake roof. The fire burned so hot the crews had to concentrate on keeping the fire from spreading to adjacent business buildings and a service station directly across the street.

The building, constructed in 1904, was a local historical landmark and was used as a stage stop years ago. The building housed, in addition to Williams' office, a general store, two restaurants, a barber shop and the Bass Lake Post Office. The loss is estimated at $400,000.

Firefighting efforts were hampered by exploding ammunition and canned goods which were still going off at noon the next day. No serious injuries were sustained by any of the 50 firemen nor the 200 sightseers at the scene.

The area where the fire occurred is located on private land inside of the Sierra National Forest and is within the mutual aid zone for the California Division of Forestry. The Madera Ranger Unit responded with pumper units from Ahwahnee and Coarsegold and the Civil Defense pumper from Madera Headquarters. Schedule "C" units manned by volunteers responded from Bass Lake, Oakhurst and North Ford to assist the U. S. Forest Service suppress the fire.

Williams said he plans to continue with business as soon as he can rebuild.

F. D. Wood
Assistant State Forest Ranger

RICHARD A. SPARKS COMPLETES 25 YEARS

Richard A. Sparks, Automotive Maintenance Foreman, completed 25 years of service with Division of Forestry on January 19, 1962, and was recently presented a 25-year pin in recognition of his service.

On July 3, 1936, Dick joined the Division as an Assistant Ranger in Mendocino County which position he filled until the close of fire season. The following Spring he returned to work as an Assistant Ranger assigned to the Davis Shops where he was employed for two years. In May, 1939, Sparks returned to the field, serving as Assistant Ranger in Santa Cruz, El Dorado, Tehama, and Santa Clara Counties.

Dick was appointed Heavy Equipment Mechanic for District V in August, 1945. In April, 1953, he was appointed to his present position of Automotive Maintenance Foreman in District V.

Dick and his wife, Helen, live in Santa Cruz. Their daughter, Susan, is a student at Soquel Union High School, while a son, Richard, is a freshman honor student at the University of the Pacific.

Theodore J. Waddell, State Forest Ranger

THE CATACLYSMIC 904
by
Joseph Hope

In the dawn of our creation
came a might conflagration
and the story of that fire must be told.
It was caused by condescension
on who'd rule the earth's dimension
and as you read, the tale will metrically unfold.

Now I'm sure you will recall
mighty Satan's earthly fall
when the Lord had put him down for insurrection.
But old Lucifer was vengeful
and his heart was so revengeful
He fought back with every ounce of imperfection.

He decided, in his ire,
that he'd set the world on fire
and began by lobbing fire-balls around.
Soon the planet was in flames
from Bengazi to the Thames
and no way to meet the problem could be found.

From in heaven came the cry,
"Douse the fire - do or die."
But angels don't fight fire, as we know.
They tried hymnals, prayers and song,
but the fire raged along
and it looked as though he'd struck a fatal blow.

Then the Lord came on the scene
saw the danger to the green
and knew that something must be done right then.
So He turned to Gabe, forlorn,
and said, "Put down your golden horn
and blow the siren up at Camp Oak Glen."

They came tumbling through the door,
crews one, two, three and four
in profane profusion mounting to a roar.
They were tooled out on the spot
and before the sun was hot
they were cutting southward, bound for Ecuador.

By the time they cleared the border
they were settled down in order
and were cutting line as never cut before.
They were humping, they were thumping,
and the noise was really something.
A crescendo, like an avalanche's roar.

As they labored through the forest
thinking who would be the sorest
and their thoughts were on some distant bacchinal,
they increased the fevered pitch
tried to put in time that stitch,
where they trenched, now lays the Panama Canal.

They paused to eat some rations
in the Scandinavian nations
and the Devil thought they'd dominoed at last.
But they bolted food and brew,
cleared some brush in Xanadu
and were moving south through France just twice as fast.

Over mountains, cross the plains,
in the dust and summer rains
always followed by the large and cheering crowds.
Many highways have been laid
on the fire trail they made
they scraped the Gobi Desert with McLeods.

They turned left just east of Prussia
cut across the Steppes of Russia
and they broad-jumped clear across the Aleut Chain.
Cutting, digging, hacking, scraping
a great legend they were shaping
and they meant to tie-in at Oak Glen once again.

Well, they finally reached the camp,
each one came in like a champ
and the holocaust was put under control.
It had been an epic day
they never faltered on the way,
and Don Lugo came and handled the patrol.

So now the story's through
and you know it's all but true
of how they cut a line around the World.
And to make it more sublime,
it was done on Duffy's time
and with that we steal away with banners furled.